Introduced by Senator Hertzberg

February 27, 2015

An act to amend Sections 42240, 42241, 42243, 42244, and 42245 of, and to repeal Section 42244.5 of, Section 42921 of the Public Resources Code, relating to solid waste.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 742, as amended, Hertzberg. Solid waste: diversion.

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, administered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, generally regulates the disposal, management, and recycling of solid waste. The act requires each state agency to develop and adopt, in consultation with the department, an integrated waste management plan. Existing law requires each state agency and each large state facility, on and after January 1, 2004, to divert at least 50% of all solid waste from landfill disposal or transformation facilities through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities.

This bill would require each state agency and each large state facility, on and after January 1, 2018, to divert at least 60% of all solid waste from landfill disposal or transformation facilities through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities. The bill would also delete an obsolete provision.

This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to some of its provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no-yes. State-mandated local program: no.

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The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 42921 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

42921. (a) Each state agency and each large state facility shall divert at least 25 percent of all solid waste generated by the state agency by January 1, 2002, through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities.

42921. (b)—(a) On and after January 1, 2004, each state agency and each large state facility shall divert at least 50 percent of all solid waste through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities.

(b) On and after January 1, 2018, each state agency and each large state facility shall divert at least 60 percent of all solid waste through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities.

SECTION 1. Section 42240 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

42240. The Department of General Services and the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, in consultation with other affected state agencies, shall maintain specifications for the purchase of compost by the State of California. The specifications shall designate the state minimum operating standards and product quality standards. The specifications shall be designed to maximize the use of compost without jeopardizing the safety and health of the citizens of the state or the environment.

SEC. 2. Section 42241 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

42241. The Department of Transportation shall use compost in place of, or to supplement, petroleum-based commercial fertilizers in the state's highway landscape maintenance program.

SEC. 3. Section 42243 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

42243. The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Department of General Services shall initiate programs to restore public lands that use compost, cocompost, rice straw, and chemically fixed sewage sludge and shall use those products or materials wherever possible.

SEC. 4. Section 42244 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

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42244. The department shall evaluate compost, cocompost, and chemically fixed sewage sludge for use as solid waste landfill cover materials or for use as extenders for currently used cover material. Compost, cocompost, and chemically fixed sewage sludge products, when used as a substitute for or mixed with currently approved cover material, shall possess all the physical characteristics required in the definition of a cover material.

- SEC. 5. Section 42244.5 of the Public Resources Code is repealed.
- SEC. 6. Section 42245 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:
- 42245. Based on the results of the evaluation conducted in accordance with Section 42244, the department may, on a case-by-case basis, approve the use of compost, cocompost, and chemically fixed sewage sludge, that meet the performance standards for cover material, for up to 25 percent of landfill cover materials or landfill cover extenders.